

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the subject application.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-13, 16-44, 55-67, and 70-83 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,599,194 to Smith et al. (hereinafter "Smith").

Smith discloses:

An existing video game system is modified to include additional communication and storage capability via a modem and hard disk drive. The modification may involve the use of an expansion device coupled to a video game system port. A cable TV tuner is also included in the expansion device to assist in providing a unique picture-in-picture video capability. TV signals are coupled to the expansion device via the RF input from either cable TV or off-air signals. These RF signals are blended with the output signals from the video game system. A user may, for example, watch TV while viewing overlay information from the video game console. A user may receive a TV channel guide downloaded via the Internet, spot a program which the user desires to view and immediately access, via an IR input, the desired channel through the expansion device TV tuner. A user may also watch TV while simultaneously logging onto the Internet. A hard drive permits downloading from the Internet of entire games. (Smith Abstract).

As discussed below, the game system enhancement described in Smith does not disclose the elements of the claims in the present application.

As amended, Claim 1 of the present application recites:

A game console, comprising:
a memory;
a processor coupled to the memory; and
a console application stored in the memory and executable on the processor, the console application presenting a user interface to facilitate access to multiple different media types associated with a plurality of different media sources, wherein each of the multiple different media types has an associated graphical element in the user interface, and wherein each of the multiple different media types has an associated menu that is displayed upon selection of the associated graphical element in the user interface.

Although Smith mentions a user interface, Smith fails to disclose the specific features of the user interface recited in amended claim 1. In particular, Smith does not disclose “a user interface to facilitate access to multiple different media types associated with a plurality of different media sources”, as recited in claim 1. Further, Smith does not disclose “wherein each of the multiple different media types has an associated menu that is displayed upon selection of the associated graphical element in the user interface”, as recited in claim 1.

The Office Action cites several portions of Smith as support for the user interface recited in claim 1. In particular, the Office Action cites “Figure 4, Column 1, lines 17-18, Column 2, lines 34-38, Column 3, lines 40-46, and 54-67, and Columns 22, 23, 25, lines 3-22.” See last sentence of paragraph number 2 (page 4 of Office Action). These cited portions of Smith do not disclose the elements of claim 1.

For example, Column 22 of Smith mentions a user interface 350 (shown in Fig. 10) and states that the user interface “permits a user to select features

provided by the application manager 352. The user interface therefore presents to the user a set of selectable operations.” (Column 22, lines 59-61). The discussion in Smith continues to Column 23, which discloses communication applications 354, offline applications 356, and file manager 360. This discussion fails to provide any specific details regarding the user interface. In particular, this discussion does not mention “a user interface to facilitate access to multiple different media types associated with a plurality of different media sources” (emphasis added) or “wherein each of the multiple different media types has an associated menu that is displayed upon selection of the associated graphical element in the user interface”, as recited in claim 1.

Column 25, lines 3-22 of Smith discloses a display that shows various user options. This portion of Smith mentions that “the user will have the option of choosing an Internet browser, any games that have been loaded on the hard drive 206, and a range of selectable application programs....” (Column 25, lines 8-10). Although this portion of Smith mentions options displayed to a user, the cited language does not disclose any further details regarding the user interface. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the portions of Smith cited in the Office Action as supporting disclosure of a user interface fail to disclose the elements of claim 1 as amended herein.

In particular, the portions of Smith discussed above fail to disclose a user interface that provides access to multiple different media types associated with multiple media sources. Further, Smith does not disclose a user interface in which each media type has an associated menu that is displayed in response to selecting a

graphical element associated with that media type. Thus, the Smith reference fails to disclose the elements of amended claim 1.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 2-8 and 10-12 depend from claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

As amended, Claim 13 of the present application recites:

A game console, comprising:
an integrated hard disk memory that stores instructions required for running games on the game console;
a processor coupled to the hard disk memory; and
a console application stored in the hard disk memory and executed on the processor, wherein the console application presents a user interface to facilitate access to multiple different media types associated with a plurality of different sources and to facilitate access to game console settings, and to identify contents of the hard disk drive, wherein the user interface includes:

- a main menu that identifies different media types;
- a games collection menu selectable from the main menu to identify one or more game titles that are currently available to play;
- a music collection menu selectable from the main menu to identify one or more music titles that are currently available to play;
- and
- a movie collection menu selectable from the main menu to identify one or more movie titles that are currently available to play.

As discussed above with respect to claim 1, although Smith mentions options displayed to a user, the Smith reference does not disclose any further details regarding the user interface. For example, Smith does not disclose a user interface

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that includes a main menu, a games collection menu, a music collection menu and a movie collection menu, as recited in claim 13.

The gaming system described in the present application is capable of retrieving multiple types of content from multiple sources. Thus, the mere fact that a game disc is installed in the gaming system does not necessarily indicate that the user wants to play the game. Instead, the user may want to watch a movie, listen to music, play an online game, play a game stored on the hard disk drive in the gaming system, or play a game stored on a portable memory unit installed in a game controller. Thus, a more sophisticated user interface is necessary to allow a user to select a desired media type and a desired media source. The type of user interface described in the present application was not necessary in earlier video games that did not support multiple media types and multiple media sources.

Since the Smith reference does not disclose the use of multiple media types and multiple media sources as recited in claim 13, there is no reason for Smith to discuss a user interface that supports multiple media types and multiple media sources. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Smith fails to disclose the elements of claim 13.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 13 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 18-21 depend from claim 13, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

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As amended, Claim 22 of the present application recites:

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A gaming system, comprising:
a portable memory drive configured to communicate with a portable memory device that stores a first media type, the first media type being one of game media, music media, or movie media;
a game controller;
a memory unit coupled to the game controller and configured to store a second media type, the second media type being one of game media, music media, or movie media;
a processor coupled to the portable memory drive and the memory unit; and
a user interface to facilitate user selection of the first and second media types.

The Smith reference fails to disclose a gaming system having "a portable memory drive configured to communicate with a portable memory device that stores a first media type", "a game controller", and "a memory unit coupled to the game controller and configured to store a second media type", as recited in claim 22. Applicant submits that Smith does not make any reference to a memory unit coupled to the game controller. Further, Smith fails to mention a portable memory drive that handles portable memory devices storing a first media type, and a memory unit coupled to the controller that stores a second media type.

Accordingly, Smith fails to disclose the elements of claim 22. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 25-30 depend from claim 22, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

As amended, Claim 35 of the present application recites:

A gaming system, comprising:
a first game controller including a first portable memory unit;
a second game controller including a second portable memory unit;
a processor; and
a user interface application executed on the processor to present a memory collection menu that identifies the first and second portable memory units that are available for storage of user data.

Applicant submits that the Smith reference fails to disclose “a first game controller including a first portable memory unit” or “a second game controller including a second portable memory unit”, as recited in claim 35. Further, Applicant submits that Smith does not disclose “a user interface application executed on the processor to present a memory collection menu that identifies the first and second portable memory units that are available for storage of user data”, as recited in claim 35. Since Smith fails to disclose a game controller including a portable memory unit, there is no reason for Smith to mention a user interface that identifies portable memory units available for storage of user data. Without such disclosure, Smith does not disclose the elements of claim 35.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 35 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 36-43 depend from claim 35, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

As amended, **Claim 55** of the present application recites:

A method comprising:
presenting a main menu for a game console that identifies different media types that may be played by the game console, the media types including a game media type, a music media type, and a movie media type;
upon selection of the game media type, navigating to a games collection menu that identifies a plurality of game titles that are currently available to play, wherein the plurality of game titles are associated with multiple different game sources;
upon selection of the music media type, navigating to a music collection menu that identifies a plurality of music titles that are currently available to play, wherein the plurality of music titles are associated with multiple different music sources; and
upon selection of the movie media type, navigating to a movie collection menu that identifies a plurality of movie titles that are currently available to play, wherein the plurality of movie titles are associated with multiple different movie sources.

As discussed above, the Smith reference mentions options displayed to a user. However, the portions of Smith cited in the Office Action fail to disclose any further details regarding the user interface. For example, Smith fails to disclose “upon selection of the movie media type, navigating to a movie collection menu that identifies a plurality of movie titles that are currently available to play, wherein the plurality of movie titles are associated with multiple different movie sources” (emphasis added), as recited in claim 55. Applicant notes that Smith does not disclose a movie collection menu (or any other menu) that identifies available titles from multiple different sources. Additionally, Smith makes no reference to a user interface structure having a main menu, a games collection menu, a music collection menu, and a movie collection menu. Smith makes a general reference to a user interface and “options” displayed to a user, but fails to disclose the elements of claim 55.

Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 55 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 56-61 depend from claim 55, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

As amended, Claim 62 of the present application recites:

A method comprising:
presenting a memory collection menu that identifies a plurality of memory devices coupled to a game console, wherein at least one of the plurality of memory devices is contained in a game controller coupled to the game console, and wherein the plurality of memory devices are available for storage of user data; and
upon selection of a memory device, presenting a memory contents menu identifying contents of the selected memory device.

As discussed above, the Smith reference fails to disclose a memory device "contained in a game controller coupled to the game console", as recited in claim 62. Since Smith makes no reference to such a memory device, Smith further contains no disclosure of a memory collection menu that identifies a memory device contained in a game controller.

Accordingly, Smith fails to disclose the elements of claim 62. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 62 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 63-67 depend from claim 62, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.

As amended, Claim 70 of the present application recites:

A user interface for a game console, comprising:
a main menu configured to identify different media types that may be played by the game console, the media types including a game media type, a music media type, and a movie media type;
a games collection menu accessible from the main menu to identify one or more game titles associated with a plurality of different game sources, wherein the identified game titles are currently available to play on the game console;
a music collection menu accessible from the main menu to identify one or more music titles associated with a plurality of different music sources, wherein the identified music titles are currently available to play on the game console; and
a movie collection menu accessible from the main menu to identify one or more movie titles associated with a plurality of different movie sources, wherein the identified movie titles are currently available to play on the game console.

As discussed above, the Smith reference mentions options displayed to a user, but fails to disclose any further details regarding the user interface. In particular, Smith fails to disclose a user interface having "a main menu to identify different media types", "a games collection menu ... to identify one or more game titles", "a music collection menu ... to identify one or more music titles", and "a movie collection menu ... to identify one or more movie titles", as recited in claim 70. The Smith reference fails to disclose this type of menu structure for accessing multiple different media types. Additionally, Smith does not disclose identifying game titles associated with different game sources, identifying music titles associated with different music sources, and identifying movie titles associated with different movie sources, as recited in claim 70. These details of the user interface are not mentioned by the Smith reference.

Accordingly, Smith fails to disclose the elements of claim 70. Thus, for at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 70 is allowable over Smith. Given that claims 71-83 depend from claim 70, Applicant respectfully submits that those claims are likewise allowable over Smith for at least the reasons discussed above.


Applicant respectfully requests that the §102 rejections be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Claims 1-8, 10-13, 18-22, 25-30, 35-43, 55-67, and 70-83 are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and issuance of the subject application. Should any matter in this case remain unresolved, the undersigned attorney respectfully requests a telephone conference with the Examiner to resolve any such outstanding matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

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